

# OFFICIAL DISPATCH

2P

VIA Air  
(Specify Air or Sea Pouch)

DISPATCH NO. EASW-269

**Security Information**  
CLASSIFICATION

TO Chief of Base, Salzburg

DATE APR 16 1958

FROM Chief, EE

6 11 H B K

SUBJECT { GENERAL Operational/HIWAY  
SPECIFIC Matyas DANKO

MICROFILMED  
AUG 7 1962  
DOC. MICRO. SER.

Ref: EASA 1042-3 6-2-1044

1. Unfortunately we are not able to guess precisely what connection DANKO may have with GROUNDHOG (the "uncontrolled Headquarters subsidized group"). It is quite possible that his reports, if any, go from the MHBK to GROUNDHOG, or to the French, the Italians and other points of the compass.

2. We expect the MHBK to pass through a period of financial strain during the next few months as funds cease to flow into the group from the French and from the GROUNDHOG organization. You will recall that this sort of thing has been going on for some years, and that a number of former MHBK types have offered their services to us on the excuse either that they disagreed politically with the MHBK, or that they were forced to break for financial reasons. Somehow the MHBK has always managed to live through these crises and, more often than not, retains a hold over its former members regardless of whether they make an overt break with Zako. For this reason, we have always taken the position that a person with MHBK connections is seldom of enough interest to warrant the effort of investigating and cutting off his MHBK ties. Obviously this is not a hard and fast rule. The MHBK this time may be severely crippled and there might be a few outstanding persons who would and could make a clean break.

3. Before trying to judge whether DANKO is "a MHBK asset worth saving", we suggest that he be debriefed thoroughly and that you get a first-hand assessment of him by a competent staff member. In this connection, it is our recollection that ☐ interviewed DANKO during 1950 and found him

EE/FT /20  
(Releasing officer)

EE/C,  
EE/FT/PO  
(Coordinating officer)

EE/H  
(Authenticating officer)

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**SECRET**  
Security Information

FORM NO. 51-29  
JUN 1949

16-61224-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2E  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2006

200-6-125

too supine to be of any value. If DANKO has real assets, and if he is the proper and only man to handle them, he may be of interest. You should not pick him up, however, if there is nothing to be gained but the addition of another body to Salzburg's already top-heavy staff of principal agents, spotters, and so forth.

4. Before you debrief DANKO on the Danube leads he claims to have, please discuss the case with [C] } The story of DANKO's connection with a member of the Hungarian Trade Commission in Vienna looks rather weird but should definitely be investigated. Note the similarity between this and [C] report on Josef Katz in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Muni 3216.

5. Traces and comments on the Guyla MELEGHY case will be forwarded separately.

[C] }

10 April 1953

3 Salzburg

1 RI  
2 EE/H

EE/H/WFB/mp

Security Information

200-6-12-70